



The Florida House of Representatives *Legislator University Online*

December 3-4, 10-11, 14-15, 2020

Course Catalog

All House Courses:

AHC 100: Ethics in the Legislature

A comprehensive walk through of the rules and statutes governing ethics and filing requirements, answers to frequently asked questions, as well as a more in-depth discussion of what constitutes a public record and open meeting, as well as restrictions under Amendment 12.

AHC 101: Active Shooter Training: Safety and Security Procedures

Do you know what to do in case of an emergency? Here you will learn about the Capitol Complex safety procedures and what to do in case of an active shooter incident.

AHC 102: Florida's Fiscal State

A frank look at our state's fiscal situation and how it will affect the budgetary process this term.

AHC 103: Respect in the Workplace

The House has zero tolerance for sexual harassment. This mandatory class is to ensure a safe and appropriate work environment for all.

AHC 104: Civility and Protocol

Not sure how to refer to someone? Don't want to offend your fellow Members? This will be useful information whether you are a returning Member needing a refresher or a new Member with questions. Learning proper decorum and proper treatment of colleagues is important at any stage of your legislative career.

General Survey Courses:

[Freshmen are asked to take all GSC courses, and they are optional for all others]

100 Level

GSC 100: The Role of a House Member Inside State Government

Learn how you fit into the larger narrative of Florida government. There are different functions and roles Members play both individually and as part of larger entities (e.g. committees) both in Tallahassee and in their districts.

GSC 101: Vocabulary of the Rules

Sine Die! PCB! 3rd Reading! Before you learn the mechanics of the Rules, learn the different terms that are used. *[Prerequisite for SSC 201]*

GSC 102: Vocabulary of the Budget

If appropriations is its own world, here you will learn its language. Hear all about the terminology and verbiage that are used in the appropriations process so that you can more easily navigate the budget. *[Prerequisite for SSC 202]*

GSC 103: Anatomy of a Bill

Provides an overview of the different components of a bill, what the different sections mean, and how to utilize staff analyses effectively.

GSC 104: Anatomy of the Calendar

The House Calendar can be a tremendous asset when used effectively. This class breaks down the calendar, teaching how to read it properly, and explaining the concept of block scheduling.

GSC 105: Filing Appropriations Bills

As stewards of Florida's tax dollars it is imperative that our appropriations process be open, transparent, and accurate. To that end, there are many forms and information that are required for proper filing. This class will teach what is needed and why, as well as explain changes to the committee process.

Specific Subject Courses:

200 Level

SSC 200: Essential Legislative Concepts

Here you will learn important concepts that are an integral part of the legislative branch, such as the separation of powers, rulemaking, and oversight authority.

SSC 201: Mechanics of the Rules

Learning procedural actions and when to use them will make you a more effective legislator. Find out some of the more common procedural actions you are likely to see and how they govern the process. *[Freshmen must have completed GSC 101]*

SSC 202: Mechanics of the Budget

A more in-depth study of the nuances of the budget and the budget writing process. *[Freshmen must have completed GSC 202]*

SSC 203: How Florida is Funded: Our State's Revenue Streams

Learning the variety of ways our state collects taxes is as important as knowing the budgetary process. This class will talk about the multitude of funding streams that go into how our state operates.

300 Level Courses

SSC 300: Exploring Florida's Medicaid Program

An overview of the Federal program, its scope, and how the program is administered by the state.

SSC 301: Aiming Higher: Florida's Colleges and Universities

The State University System, along with the Florida College System, and private institutions comprise the state's system of higher education. Here you will learn about the differences and how they are governed.

SSC 302: Dealing with Disasters: Emergency Management

There is no question on if we will have another hurricane, only when. And in a post-COVID world, policy surrounding pandemics is as important as ever. This class will talk about the various ways Florida deals with emergency situations and how emergency management works at the state and local level.

SSC 303: How Florida Regulates Businesses and Professions

We pride ourselves on being a business friendly state, and with that distinction comes a responsibility to ensure that businesses and professions have proper parameters and guidelines with which to operate to ensure consumer safety and protection. This class will offer a look at how the state oversees the regulation and licensing of business and professional entities, as well as consumer programs.

SSC 304: Understanding Estimating Conferences

Responsible governance relies on forecasting and making plans to ensure a stable economy. This class will focus on the predictions derived from the various conferences and their role in the legislative process.

SSC 305: Overview of the Judicial Branch

As a legislator, you not only deal with the Executive Branch, but all three branches. Here you will explore the complexities of the very important 3rd branch of state government. It will include a discussion of the Florida Supreme Court, Courts of Appeal, Circuit Courts, County Courts, as well as the function of its administrative arm, the Office of the State Courts Administrator (OSCA). In addition to the court system it will discuss the role of Public Defenders and State Attorneys in the process.

SSC 306: Protecting Our Kids: An Overview of the Child Welfare System

We have a responsibility as a legislature to be a voice for those who cannot advocate for themselves. Ensuring Florida's children are protected is a top priority. Here you will learn about Florida's child welfare system, and assistance programs designed to keep children safe.

SSC 307: Water and the Environment

No matter where you live in Florida, there is a strong chance there is a body of water nearby. Regardless if it is a lake, stream, or ocean, clean water is vital to our state. This class will talk about water quality, algae blooms and red tide and ways we can protect our most precious resource.

SSC 308: Not Federalism: The Relationship Between State and Local Governments

An overview of the relationship between state and local governments under Article VIII, Sections 1 & 2 of the Florida Constitution.

SSC 309: Insurance in Florida

Insurance is a complex and multi-faceted policy area that affects all Floridians. This class will provide a look at how Florida regulates various sectors of the insurance industry, and what that means for your constituents.

SSC 310: Understanding the Florida Education Finance Program (FEFP)

We owe it to our children and grandchildren to not only provide access to a world-class education, but to do it in a way that ensures enough funds for all. In this class, you will learn about the formula used to allocate funds to school districts for K-12 programs.